

Human Relations Commission Agenda

The Human Relations Commission is a citizen commission appointed by the Fremont City Council. Human Relations Commission business is conducted in a public forum and operates within the provisions of the Brown Act. Information on the Brown Act may be obtained from the City Clerk's office at 3300 Capitol Avenue (phone 284-4060).

General Order of Business

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|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Secretary Check for Quorum | 6. Written Communications | 11. Commission Referrals |
| 2. Call to order – 7:15 p.m. | 7. Announcements | 12. Commission Reports |
| 3. Roll call | 8. Consent Items | 13. Staff Reports |
| 4. Approval of Minutes | 9. Old Business | 14. Referral to Staff |
| 5. Oral Communications | 10. New Business | 15. Adjournment |

Order of Discussion

Generally, the order of discussion after introduction of an item by the Chair will include comments and information by staff followed by Human Relations Commissions questions, inquiries or discussion. The applicant, authorized representative, or interested citizens may then speak on the item. At the close of public discussion, the item will be considered by the Commission and action taken.

Oral Communications

Any person desiring to speak on a matter which is not scheduled on this agenda may do so under Oral Communications. The Human Relations Commission will take no action on an item which does not appear on the agenda. The item will be agendaized for the next regular meeting or at a special meeting called in accordance with the terms of the Brown Act. The Human Relations Commission may establish time limits of presentations.

Information

Regular scheduled meetings of the Human Relations Commission are conducted at 3300 Capitol Avenue in City Council Chambers. Meetings are held at 7:15 on the third Monday of the month. Meetings may be tape recorded at the discretion of the Chair.

Copies of the Agenda are available at the Human Services Department at 3300 Capitol Avenue three days preceding the regularly scheduled meeting.

Assistance will be provided to those requiring accommodations for disabilities in compliance with the American Disabilities Act of 1990. Interested persons must request the accommodation at least 2 working days in advance of the meeting by contacting Human Services Department at (510) 574-2050.



Information about the City or items scheduled on the Agenda may be referred to:

Suzanne Shenfil, Director
Human Services Department
3300 Capitol Ave
Fremont, CA 94538
(510) 574-2051

Arquimides Caldera, Deputy Director
Human Services Department
3300 Capitol Ave.
Fremont, CA 94538
(510) 574-2056

Your interest in the conduct of your City's business is appreciated.

Human Relations Commission

Dharminder Dewan – Vice Chair
Tejinder Dhami
Beth Hoffman
Paddy Iyer
Lance Kwan
John Nguyen-Cleary - Chair
John Smith
Veeru Vuppala
Debra Watanuki

City Staff

Suzanne Shenfil, Human Services Director
Arquimides Caldera, Deputy Human Services
Director
MaryLou Johnson, Recording Secretary

Mission Statement

The City of Fremont's Human Relations Commission promotes and helps create a community environment in which all men, women and children, regardless of race, religion, national origin, gender, disability or sexual orientation, may live, learn, work and play in harmony.

AGENDA
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2015
TRAINING ROOM
3300 CAPITOL AVE., BUILDING B
FREMONT, CALIFORNIA
7:15 P.M.

1. **SECRETARY CALL FOR QUORUM**
2. **CALL TO ORDER**
3. **ROLL CALL**
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of December 15, 2014
5. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**
6. **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**
7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
8. **CONSENT ITEMS** (Routine items requiring no discussion; any Commissioner or member of the public can ask for a consent item to be moved to the regular agenda to allow for discussion)
9. **OLD BUSINESS**

None

9.1 Affordable Housing

BACKGROUND: The City is currently in the process of updating two key documents related to affordable housing in the City of Fremont. The City is working with stakeholders to update its Affordable Housing Plan, and is also finalizing its Housing Element, which is part of the General Plan and sets forth the policies and programs to address the City's Regional Housing Needs Allocation, for the period of 2015 to 2023. On October 20th, the HRC approved a recommendation to the City Council regarding the draft Affordable Housing Plan:

The Human Relations Commission commends the staff of the Fremont Planning Division, Housing Division, and Human Services Department in developing an Affordable Housing Plan that supports opportunity for

all Fremont residents and continues Fremont's regional leadership in affordable housing development.

Further, the Human Relations Commission recommends the City Council adopt all structural elements of the plan while establishing an implementation timeline ensuring full implementation of the proposed on-site inclusion and in lieu fees, as presented at the September 16, 2014 Stakeholder Meeting, by January 1, 2017.

Allison Lasser, with Congregations Organized for Renewal and Tony Samara, both representatives of Rise Fremont, an organization which advocates for affordable housing in Fremont, have been asked to speak to the Commission regarding their interests.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Receive information.

9.2 Compassionate City Charter

BACKGROUND: At its July 2014 meeting, the HRC voted to support the Compassionate City Committee, a subgroup of the Tri-City Interfaith Council (TCIC), in its efforts to have the City of Fremont participate in the Compassionate Communities movement (see link below). The Charter for Compassion is based on the Golden Rule (treat others as you would have them treat you). According to TCIC, over 40 cities around the world have signed the Charter.

The HRC also agreed to assist in collecting Fremont residents' feedback on the concept of a Compassionate Community, through the City's Open City Hall website, which is a public forum created to receive public input on various current issues. The forum went live on Tuesday, November 18th and has 7 responses to date. Sister Annette Burkett attended a symposium at Stanford on the Compassionate Community Movement and materials she obtained are being forwarded to Commissioners. Sister Burkett has asked that the Commission consider formally appointing a member of the Commission to the Compassionate Community Committee.

Enclosure: 9.2.1 Compassionate Community Movement Materials

E-Enclosure: www.fremont.gov/opencityhall
<http://charterforcompassion.org/cities>

RECOMMENDATION: Receive update on Open City Hall Forum feedback, review new materials and consider a formal appointment to the Compassionate Community Committee.

9.3 Film Screening: Matthew Shepard is a Friend of Mine

BACKGROUND: On December 15, 2013, the Commission held a special meeting to screen the film Matthew Shepard is a Friend of Mine, and unanimously voted to direct staff and commissioners to carry out actions necessary to sponsor the film screening and dialogue. Matthew Shepard was a young gay man who was kidnapped, tortured and left for dead in a Wyoming field in 1998. The film depicts the journey of director Michele Josue, as she tries to connect with other friends and family of Mr. Shepard, in hopes of better understanding his life.

The Commission has set a tentative screening date of May 22nd at 7:00PM. Washington Hospital is unable to host the film in its auditorium, so the Commission will ask the school district about other possible venues, including Valhalla Theatre. The film maker, Run Rabbit Run Media, is requesting a \$500 fee for a one-time public screening and digital promotional materials.

Enclosure: None

RECOMMENDATIONS: Receive update on the availability of a venue, and decide whether the Commission will move forward with screening the film.

9.4 Focused Strategy for HRC Fundraising

BACKGROUND: At its October 20 meeting, the HRC voted to support a more focused HRC fundraising strategy for projects like Make a Difference Day, boxART!, the film series', and other projects that the Commission has sponsored over the years. Commissioner Smith and Chair Watanuki volunteered to complete the draft of a sponsor letter and begin sending out donation requests.

Staff discussed the HRC's strategy for contacting businesses with members of the Economic Development staff. Kelly Kline, Economic Development Director, suggested that the use of an introductory letter might not be the most effective strategy for the Commission to utilize and staff has invited her to present her ideas for effective outreach to the HRC at the February meeting.

Enclosure: None

RECOMMENDATIONS: Receive staff update and hear presentation from Economic Development in February before moving forward on fundraising/friendraising.

9.5 Racial Equity/ Social Justice Dialogue

BACKGROUND: On December 15, 2014, Commissioner Smith reported his assessment of the seminar "Cross-Racial Organizing: the Opportunity to

Achieve Racial Equity” which was organized by the California of Human Rights Organizations.

The seminar suggested racial inequities exist across all indicators for success - education, jobs, housing, neighborhoods, criminal justice, health and more. It also suggested that as citizens, we need to proactively work for racial equity or we may continue to face the status quo.

Chair Watanuki referred this issue to the *Celebrating Diversity and Promoting Civic Engagement Committee*. This committee will convene to decide what direction to take, which might begin with a forum with a diverse group of community leaders.

As requested, staff has enclosed a list of similar events sponsored by the HRC in the past.

Enclosure: 9.5.1 – HRC History of sponsored events

RECOMMENDATIONS: Receive update from the *Celebrating Diversity and Promoting Civic Engagement Committee*.

9.6 Human Rights Campaign – Municipal Equality Index

BACKGROUND: The Human Rights Campaign, an advocacy organization dedicated to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) rights, recently released its 2014 Municipal Equality Index (MEI), which examines the laws, policies, and services of 353 U.S. cities and rates them on the basis of their inclusivity of LGBT people who live and work there.

For the last two years, the City of Fremont has been selected to participate in the MEI, and achieved a score of 84/100 in 2014, which places it roughly in the top 25% of all cities surveyed.

At its December 15, 2014 meeting, the Commission agreed to review the index more closely and provide recommendations at its January meeting. Commissioner Nguyen-Cleary and Deputy Director Arquimides Caldera will look at the documents that we, as a city, scored low in and how we can improve our scores.

Enclosure: 9.6.1 - City of Fremont Municipal Equality Index Score (see also <http://www.hrc.org/apps/mei/profile.php?id=35#.VGUDITTF98E>)
9.6.2 – Municipal Equality Index Scoring Criteria

RECOMMENDATIONS: Receive update from Staff and Chair Nguyen-Cleary.

10. **NEW BUSINESS** (Items on which the Commission has not yet had an agendaized discussion or taken action)

None

11. **COMMISSION REFERRALS** (Referrals from the City Council to the Commission)

12. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Committee members are receiving a copy of the HRC's current work plan. Chair Nguyen-Cleary has asked that each committee provide a midyear update on progress of their respective goals and any successful outcomes.

- 12.1 Promoting Economic Security and Success

BACKGROUND: Commissioners Hoffman, Chair Nguyen-Cleary and Vice-Chair Dewan, work to promote economic security and success, by implementing the following strategies:

- a. Bridging the Economic Gap
- c. Providing Affordable Housing

RECOMMENDATION: Receive committee report on any non-action items.

- 12.2 Celebrating Diversity and Promoting Civic Engagement of the Community and Youth

BACKGROUND: Commissioners Watanuki, Iyer and Smith work to celebrate diversity and promote civic engagement of the community and youth, by implementing the following strategies:

- a. Engaging Youth
- b. Advocating and Educating the Community and Youth about the RHC
- c. Supporting and Promoting the Diversity of Fremont

RECOMMENDATION: Receive committee report on any non-action items.

- 12.3 Providing Safety-Net Services for At-Risk Populations

BACKGROUND: Commissioners Kwan, Dhami, and Vuppala work to provide safety net Services for at-risk populations, by implementing the following strategies:

RECOMMENDATION: Receive committee report on any non-action items.

13. **STAFF REPORTS**

- 13.1 Attendance Summary (**Attachment 13.1**)

- 13.2 Calendar (**Attachment 13.2**) of HRC regular/special meetings and events.
 - 13.2.1.1 Change to February Meeting Date to February 23rd, due to Presidents Day Holiday
- 13.3 Total cost of recently sponsored and supported projects.
- 14. **REFERRALS TO STAFF** (a request to have items placed on a future Commission agenda as an item of new business. A vote against means it will be dropped without consideration).
- 15. **ADJOURNMENT**